

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A seat belt device comprising a seat belt for restraining and protecting an occupant sitting on a vehicle seat, and an end portion of the seat belt includes a lap anchor,

wherein the seat belt is connected to a vehicle body on a side of the vehicle seat via the lap anchor, and a seat weight sensor installed below the vehicle seat measures a seat load applied to said vehicle seat,

wherein a hitch member is attached [[immovably]] to either one of said vehicle seat fixed to the vehicle body or said seat weight sensor fixed to the vehicle body, the hitch member being immovable; and

wherein said lap anchor is connected to the hitch member.

2. (Withdrawn) A seat belt device as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising a locking member for preventing the release of the locking between said lap anchor and said hitch member.

3. (Previously Presented) A seat belt device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said hitch member comprises a slide bar;

wherein one end of the slide bar is attached to a mounting bracket of said seat weight sensor, the slide bar extends from said one end toward the rear of the vehicle,

wherein another end of the slide bar is attached to the vehicle body;

wherein said lap anchor is connected to said slide bar; and

wherein said lap anchor is movable along said slide bar.

4. (Previously Presented) A seat belt device comprising a lap anchor attached to a hitch member;

wherein the hitch member comprises an immovable slide bar;

wherein the lap anchor is movable along the slide bar to a standby position and a working position, and

wherein the slide bar is attached to a mounting bracket of a seat weight sensor.

5. CANCELLED

6. (Withdrawn) A seat belt device according to Claim 4, wherein the lap anchor is locked to the hitch member with a locking member.

7. (New) The seat belt device according to Claim 4, wherein a first end of the slide bar is attached to the mounting bracket of the seat weight sensor and a second end of the slide bar is fixed to a vehicle floor.

8. (New) The seat belt device according to Claim 1, wherein a first end of the slide bar is mounted to a vehicle seat or seat weight member and above a load-transmitting portion of the seat weight sensor.

9. (New) The seat belt device according to Claim 4, wherein a first end of the slide bar is mounted to the mounting bracket of the seat weight member and above a load-transmitting portion of the seat weight sensor.